Message Text

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TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WAIVER FROM PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO UNDER 1953 OPI'M PROTOCOL

REF: STATE AIRGRAM A-7535, 10/19/74

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO ASK FONOFF, IN CAPACITY AS REPRESENTATIVE OF US INTERESTS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, TO ASCERTAIN STATUS OF THAT GOVERNMENT'S ACTION ON THE REQUEST OF THE US SEEKING WAIVER OF THE REPUBLIC OF T;E CONGO OF ARTICLE 7 IN THE PROTOCOL FOR LIMITING THE CULTIVATION OF THE POPPY PLANT, THE PRODUCTION OF, INTERNATIONAL AND WHOLESALE TRADE IN, AND USE OF OPIUM, DONE AT NEW YORK JUNE 23, 1953.

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2. SPECIFICALLY, THE US REQUESTED IN A-7535 THAT THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO AGREE TO ALLOWING AS BETWEEN TWO PARTIES TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, 1961, THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF OPIUM SEIZED FROM THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROTOCOL OF 1953 WHICH DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR SUCH INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

THE US IS AWARE OF CORRESPONDENCE IN 1953 BETWEEN

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD AND A PARTY TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION OF 1961 WHEREBY THE BOARD ADOPTED THE VIEW THAT IN CASES WHERE THE TWO COUNTRIES INVOLVED ARE BOTH PARTIES TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION OF 1961, INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF SEIZED OPIUM IS PERMITTED UNDER PARAGRAPH 5 OF ARTICLE 24 OF THE CONVENTION WITH THE PROVISION THAT SUCH TRADE BE EFFECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF THAT CONVENTION.

4. FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES, THE US DESIRES TO ACQUIRE OPIUM SEIZED IN THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC BY ANOTHER PARTY TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION OF 1961, AND THE TRADE WOULD BE EFFECTED IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONVENTION. INGERSOLL

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